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#### Mahi'ai o Wai'oli

Farmers of Wai'oli

#### Ahahui Mahiai o Waioli, Kauai.

Ma ka la 30 o Okatoba iho nei, akoakoa kekahi poe kanaka ma na apana o Hanalei me Anahola, ma ka hale pule o Waioli, e hookumu i Ahahui Mahiai no ia mau apana.

Ua kohoia o D. B. Mahoe, Esq., i Kaukau Olelo, a o J. it. Wana, Esq., i Lunahoomalu no ia Aha.

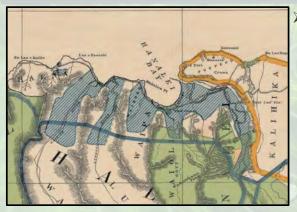
Ua lawe ia mai i kumu kanawai i mua o ka Aha, a ua hooponoponoia a hooholoia, peneia:

Ka Nupepa Kuokoa, Nov. 16, 1861

➤ "On the 30<sup>th</sup> of this past October, certain peoples representing the districts of Hanalei and Anahola, gathered at Wai'oli Church to create a Farming Association for these districts. D.B. Mahoe Esq. was chosen as secretary, and J.H. Werner Esq. was chosen as Chair for this meeting. They presented a constitution before the body, and it was amended and passed."

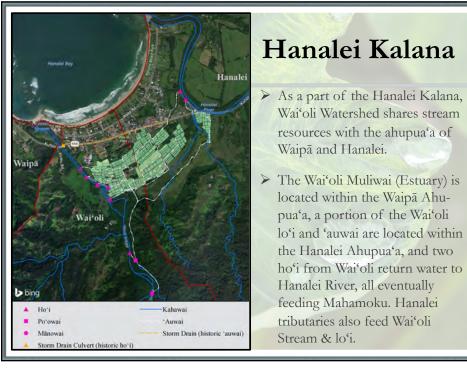
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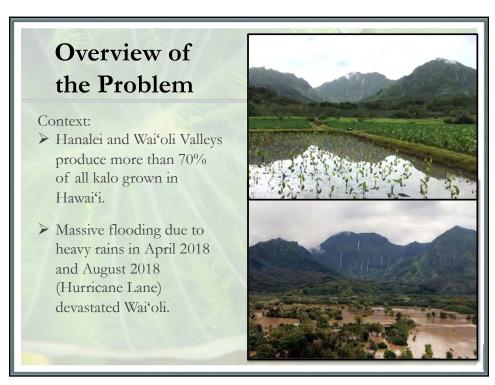
## Hanalei Kalana Hanalei Bay Watershed

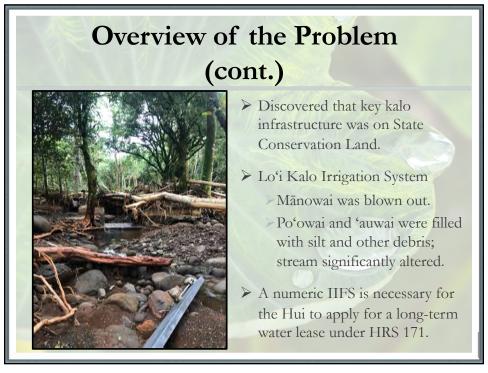


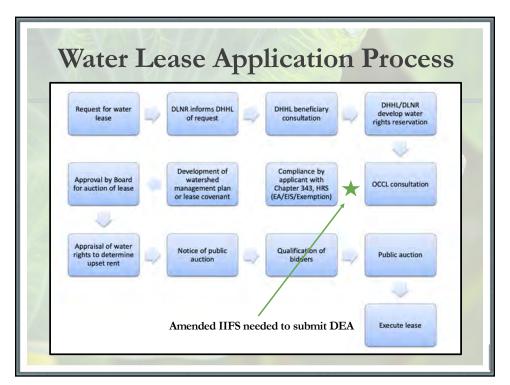
➤ The Hanalei Kalana includes Hanalei Bay Watershed: Hanalei, Waiʻoli, Waipā, and Waikoko, meeting at Mahamoku, "Hanalei Bay."

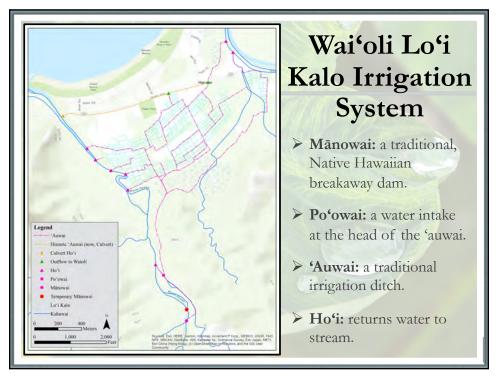
For centuries, Kānaka Maoli have managed natural and cultural resources within the larger Hanalei Bay Watershed as a single integrated system to maximize the cultivation of traditional crops and lifeways and to distribute water, resources.







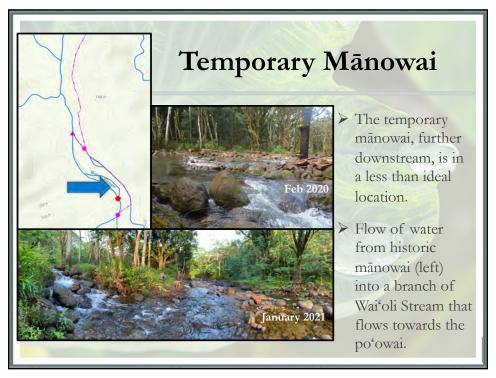


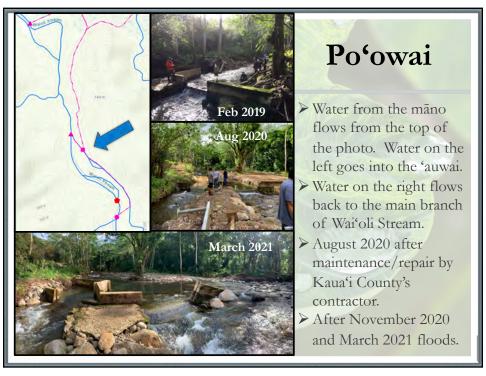


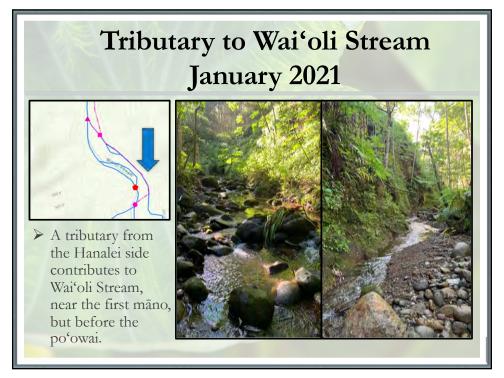


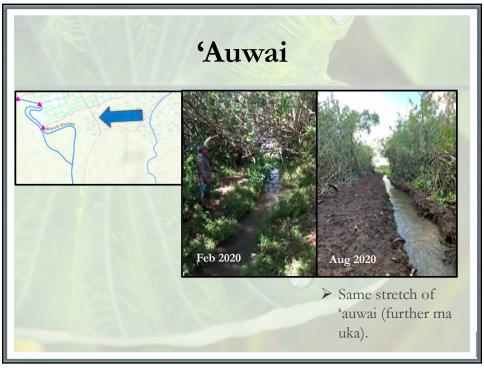


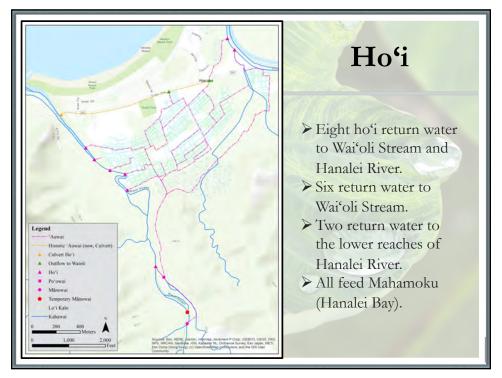


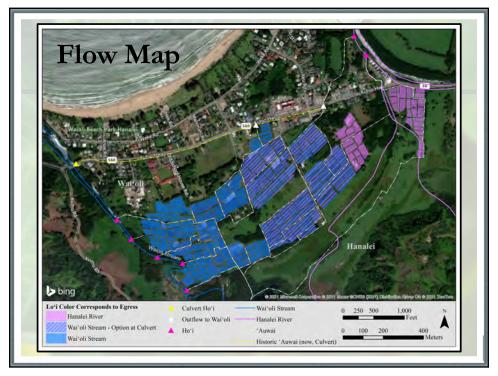






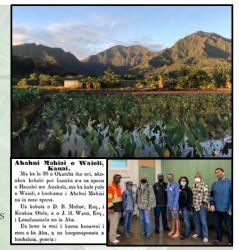






## Waiʻoli Valley Taro Hui

- These small, family-run kalo farms formally organized as the Wai'oli
   Valley Taro Hui in response to the April 2018 flooding.
- The farmers have collaborated informally for over a century to steward and maintain Wai'oli Valley's natural and cultural resources.
- The Hui is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established for the purposes of education and community engagement to empower future generations with traditional knowledge.



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## Aloha 'Āina 'Oia'i'o

- For Kānaka Maoli, and for these farmers, the practice of **aloha 'āina** is embodied in the traditional and customary cultural practice of kalo cultivation.
- This practice not only operationalizes the farmers' kuleana to mālama 'āina as a means of survival, but



importantly, it actualizes their familial relationship and kuleana to Kānaka Maoli's elder sibling: kalo.

#### Kuleana 'Ohana



Within the Hui, nearly all the farmers were raised growing kalo in Wai'oli, learning the practice from their parents, grandparents, and, for some, their great grandparents.

For example, kalo farming defines the Kaona 'ohana, a practice that spans four generations. Uncle Shorty Kaona is 100% Native Hawaiian and continues to farm full-time on his 'ohana's kuleana land, as his ancestors have done since time immemorial.

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## Ma ka Hana ka 'Ike Learning by Doing and Adapting

- ➤ The Hui relies and acts upon intergenerational knowledge passed down throughout Kaua'i generally, and Wai'oli Valley specifically.
- The farmers intimately understand the 'āina in Wai'oli, the movement of the earth, and the rhythm and patterns found in the natural environment.
- This informs and guides their 'āina-based practices and processes of kalo cultivation in Wai'oli.
- ➤ Sharing experiences, adapting to natural changes, and stewarding this 'āina for generations, these farmers have practiced kilo (observation) and have learned ma ka hana ka 'ike (the practice of learning by doing and adapting).



# Ho'olako Enough to Share with Others



- ➤ In Halele'a, communities measure their wealth via ho'olako — having enough to share with others.
- The Hui aims to ho'olako and feed kama'āina as a means to sustain and maintain a relationship-based economy with shared values of aloha 'āina aloha for each other and aloha for the land.
  - Today, the Hui trades with and/or gifts kalo to members within their community.

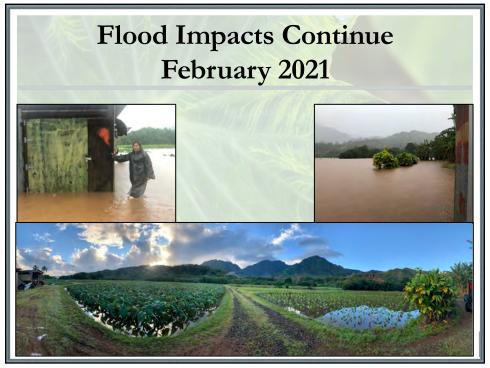
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## Mālama 'Āina

- ➤ This ancient Loʻi Kalo Irrigation System is intimately interconnected and has changed very little over the last several centuries.
- For example, the farmers consistently restore the mānowai, clear the stream of debris, and fix the 'auwai. This monitoring and maintenance is a vital part of their cultural practice. It is when families gather and share time, food, and fellowship.







## Aia i Wai'oli ke Aloha 'Āina

Aia i Waiʻoli ke aloha ʻāina

Ia ʻāina momona no ka hui kalo

That fertile land for the hui kalo

Hui ʻia a kūpaʻa, ā lawa pono

'Iliʻili leo honehone i ka poli

Gathered as small pebbles soft in sound, but together, strong and held close

Pumehana Waipā uluwehiwehi

Waipā is cherished, lush and verdant

Hoapili no ka wai ʻolu o Waiʻoli

A companion for the refreshing waters

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## Aia i Wai'oli ke Aloha 'Āina

of Wai'oli

'Oli'oli Keanolani no ka mahi'ai

I laila nō wau me ku'u mahalo

It is there that I am filled with gratitude

Hanohano Kalihiwai i ka pua 'ala

Famous is Kalihiwai for its fragrant flower

Kui 'ia i lei no ka lāhui

Strung into a lei for the lahui

Ha'ina ka puana a i lohe 'ia

Told is the refrain and it is heard

Aia i Wai'oli ke aloha 'āina

There at Wai'oli is aloha aina

Na U'ilani Tanigawa Lum

@ Huliāmahi, Volume 1

